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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **NEWS FOR:**

**Downtown Center Business Improvement District  
(Los Angeles)**

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## **THE DOWNTOWN CENTER BID EXPANDS UPON ITS LONG HISTORY OF HOMELESS OUTREACH WITH NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH PATH (PEOPLE ASSISTING THE HOMELESS)**

### **Commencing October 2015, the Agreement Provides for a Full-time Mobile Outreach Team that Encourages Homeless to Take Advantage of PATH Services.**

(Downtown Los Angeles, CA – October 26, 2015) – Furthering its leadership role in the effort to assist the Downtown LA homeless population, the Downtown Center Business Improvement District (DCBID) has joined forces with PATH (People Assisting the Homeless), announced Carol E. Schatz, President and CEO of the DCBID. The partnership provides for a full-time, on-the-street, mobile outreach team that will educate and encourage individuals experiencing homelessness to take advantage of the multitude of services that PATH provides, including permanent housing and mental health and wellness services.

This new partnership expands upon the efforts of the DCBID's specially trained BID A.C.T.I.O.N. Team, which over the past 14 years has assisted the Downtown homeless community with a variety of services including providing clothing, blankets, transportation, medical services, bus tokens, and assistance with entry into rehabilitation programs. In 2014, the BID A.C.T.I.O.N. Team became an official administer of the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool), a pre-screening or triage tool designed to be used by all service providers to quickly assess the health and social needs of homeless persons and match them with the most appropriate support and housing interventions that are available.

According to Schatz, "Our partnership with PATH is the latest expansion of our long-standing efforts with our property owners to assist downtown's homeless community. Working together with PATH provides us an opportunity to leverage their 30-years of experience in assisting the homeless and allows us to seamlessly increase both our outreach efforts and the types and number of services we can offer to downtown's homeless population."

The partnership runs for a full year and concludes with a full program review, analysis, and annual renewal options.

### **About PATH (People Assisting the Homeless)**

Incorporated in 1984, PATH works to end homelessness for individuals, families, and communities throughout California. They do this by prioritizing housing while providing customized supportive services for people in need. Their agencies each address homelessness in a different way—supportive services, permanent housing development, support for homeless families, and community engagement—all of which ultimately help the people they serve Make It



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Home. In the last two years, PATH has helped over 5,000 people find permanent housing. Now, PATH has set a new goal to help 10,000 people Make It Home by 2020. To learn more, visit [www.epath.org](http://www.epath.org).

### **ABOUT THE DOWNTOWN CENTER BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (DCBID)**

The Downtown Center Business Improvement District (DCBID) has been the catalyst in Downtown Los Angeles' transformation into a vibrant 24/7 neighborhood. A coalition of nearly 1,700 property owners in the central business district, the DCBID members are united in their commitment to enhance the quality of life in Downtown Los Angeles. Bounded by the Harbor Freeway to the west, First Street to the north, Main and Hill streets to the east, and Olympic Boulevard to the south, the organization helps the 65-block central business district achieve its full potential as a great place to live, work, and play. For more than 16 years, the DCBID's programs and initiatives have been the driving force behind the Downtown Los Angeles Renaissance. Now universally recognized as one of the nation's most dynamic urban centers, downtown Los Angeles was recently heralded as 'The Next Great American City' by GQ Magazine and listed as number 5 in The New York Times' '52 Places to Go in 2014'.